

The California Senate Chamber



The California Assembly Chamber

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CALIFORNIA'S LEGISLATURE

Published Spring 2016

By

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Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Compiled under the direction of:

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California's Legislature: 2012 Recipient, "Notable Document Award"
Legislative Research Librarians
National Conference of State Legislatures



Preface

The 2016 edition of *California's Legislature* is a resource for the citizens of California, elected officials, and others who are interested in the Legislature and state government. This year's edition has over 1,000 footnotes and other resources. The detailed table of contents, "Quick Information Guide," and detailed index will provide you with easy access to the charts, photos, glossaries, and other pertinent information regarding California's governmental process. In particular, the photo gallery of Senate Presidents Pro Tempore and Speakers of the Assembly outlines a unique historical perspective on our legislative process, dating back over the past five decades. There are also photos that the Legislature has made available to the public for the first time, including the swearing in of the Honorable Anthony Rendon as the 70th Speaker of the Assembly.

In addition, the printing of the publication would not be possible without the tireless contribution of countless individuals and researchers. I wish to especially extend my appreciation to the Assistant Chief Clerk/Parliamentarian, Brian Ebbert, the Speaker's Office, and the Assembly Rules Committee. Mr. Ebbert proposed innovative revisions and has worked tirelessly on facilitating the timely publication of this edition. In addition, under the direction of the State Printer, Jerry Hill, the staff at the Office of State Publishing has dedicated countless resources toward the production of this 2016 edition.

Under the direction of Speaker Anthony Rendon and Speaker Emeritus Toni Atkins, many staff from throughout the Capitol community contributed to the final version of this publication. The Assembly Engrossing and Enrolling staff also worked hard to thoroughly review the text and produce the index.

We hope you find that this year's edition is a valuable resource as you seek additional information on the California Legislature and state government.

E. Dotson Wilson
Chief Clerk and Parliamentarian

See pages vi and xiii–xiv for Acknowledgments and photo credits.

"The Legislature of California" first appeared as an article in the 1941 edition of the *Constitution* book published by the State Assembly. Over the ensuing years, this article by Chief Clerk Arthur Ohnimus grew with each re-printing, until 1957, when the Assembly adopted a motion to print the article as a separate book to better inform citizens about the legislative branch of government. Mr. Ohnimus expanded the article to a book format in 1958. When the state instituted the full-time legislature in 1966, Chief Clerk James Driscoll further expanded the book and re-named it, "California's Legislature."

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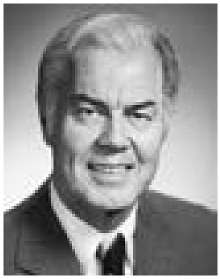
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GALLERY OF PRESIDENTS PRO TEMPORE 1957–2016*



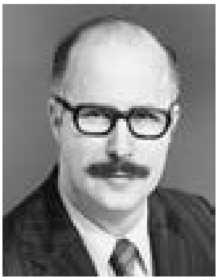
Hugh Burns (D)
Jan. 1957–May 1969



Howard Way (R)
May 1969–Feb. 1970



Jack Schrade (R)
Feb. 1970–Jan. 1971



James R. Mills (D)
Jan. 1971–Nov. 1980



David Roberti (D)
Dec. 1980–Jan. 1994



Bill Lockyer (D)
Jan. 1994–Feb. 1998



John L. Burton (D)
Feb. 1998–Nov. 2004



Don Perata (D)
Dec. 2004–Dec. 2008



Darrell Steinberg (D)
Dec. 2008–Oct. 2014



Kevin de León (D)
Oct. 2014–

* Presidents pro Tempore that have served since the Legislature became a full-time, professional body, upon adoption of Proposition 1-a, November 8, 1966.

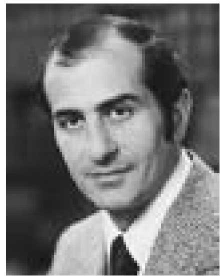
GALLERY OF SPEAKERS
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Jesse M. Unruh (D)
Sept. 1961–Jan. 1969



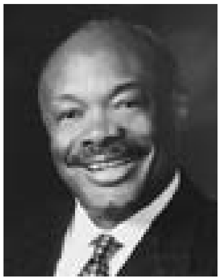
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Bob Moretti (D)
Jan. 1971–June 1974



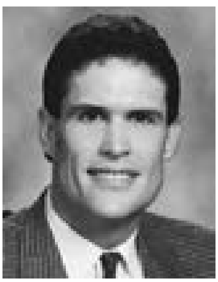
Leo T. McCarthy (D)
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Brian Setencich (R)
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Antonio R. Villaraigosa (D)
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* Speakers that have served since the Legislature became a full-time, professional body, upon adoption of Proposition 1-a, November 8, 1966.

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Toni G. Atkins (D)
May 2014–Mar. 2016



Anthony Rendon (D)
Mar. 2016–

* Speakers that have served since the Legislature became a full-time, professional body, upon adoption of Proposition 1-a, November 8, 1966.





California's Capitol, circa 1910.

CALIFORNIA: THE GOLDEN STATE
A Quick Information Guide

GENERAL INFORMATION	
State Capital	Sacramento
Date California Admitted as a State	September 9, 1850
State Motto	"Eureka" (Greek: "I have found it!")
Population[1]	38,715,000
Number of Registered Voters[2]	17,717,936
Population Density[3]	244 people/sq. mi.
Land Area (includes 2,674 sq. mi. of inland water)	158,648 sq. mi.
Highest Elevation (feet above sea-level)	14,505 ft. (Mount Whitney)
Lowest Elevation (feet below sea-level)	282 ft. (Death Valley)
Total Number of Counties	58
Five Largest Cities (by population)[4]	
Los Angeles	3,957,022
San Diego	1,368,061
San Jose	1,016,479
San Francisco	845,602
Fresno	520,159
Five Largest Counties (by population)[5]	
Los Angeles	10,136,559
San Diego	3,227,496
Orange	3,147,655
Riverside	2,308,441
San Bernardino	2,104,291
Five Largest Counties (by square miles)	
San Bernardino	20,052
Inyo	10,203
Kern	8,140
Riverside	7,207
Siskiyou	6,286

[1] California has the largest population of any state. California Department of Finance estimate, May 2015.
[2] Secretary of State, Report of Registration, February 2015.
[3] U.S. average population density is 83 people/square mile. Population density = population/land area.
[4] California Department of Finance estimate, May 2015.
[5] California Department of Finance estimate, May 2015.

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GOVERNMENTAL/POLITICAL INFORMATION

FEDERAL LEGISLATORS

Members of U.S. House Representing California[6]	53
U.S. Senators Representing California	2
People Represented in Each Congressional District (approx.)	709,759

STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Number of Statewide Elective Officers	12 (Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Treasurer, Controller, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Board of Equalization (4), Insurance Commissioner)
Term Limits for Statewide Officers	2 four-year terms

STATE JUDICIARY

Number of Justices on State Supreme Court	7

STATE LEGISLATURE

Number of Members, California Legislature	120 (80 Assembly/40 Senate)
Length of Assembly Term	2 years
Length of Senate Term	4 years
Term Limits on State Legislators[7]	12 years total lifetime service in either or both houses (Prop. 28)
People Represented in Each Assembly District	465,674
People Represented in Each Senate District	931,349

[1] U.S. Representatives serve 2-year terms; U.S. Senators serve 6-year terms.

[2] Although term limits for Members of Congress were approved by California voters in 1992 (Proposition 164), the U.S. Supreme Court in 1995 invalidated state-imposed term limits on Congressional representatives. State legislative term limits were first adopted in California in 1990 (Proposition 140). The term limits were altered in 2012. Proposition 28 (2012) governs term limits for any person first elected in 2012 or after. Any person that served in the Legislature prior to 2012 is still subject to the limitations of Proposition 140: three Assembly terms; two Senate terms.

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GOVERNMENTAL/POLITICAL INFORMATION—continued

LEGISLATIVE VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Vote Requirement to Pass Statutes	Majority (41 Assembly/21 Senate)
Vote Requirement to Pass Budget	Majority (41 Assembly/21 Senate)
Vote Requirement to Pass Appropriations, Constitutional Amendments, Fees, Taxes, and Urgency Bills	Two-thirds in each House[8] (54 Assembly/27 Senate)
Veto Override Vote Requirement	Two-thirds in each House (54 Assembly/27 Senate)
Ratification of Amendment to U.S. Constitution	Majority vote of each House (by Joint Resolution)

MISCELLANEOUS LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

Impeachment Power	Assembly indicts, drafts "articles of impeachment," and elects "managers" to prosecute; Senate tries and votes on impeachment.
Legislative Publications	Daily File Weekly History Daily Journal
Non-Member Officers of Legislature	Secretary of Senate Chief Clerk of Assembly Sergeant at Arms (in each House) Chaplain (elected by Assembly; appointed by Senate)
Motto of State Senate	Senatoris Est Civitatis Libertatem Tueri (Latin: "It is the duty of a Senator to guard the liberty of the Commonwealth.")
Motto of State Assembly	Legislatorum Est Justas Leges Condere (Latin: "It is the duty of Legislators to make just laws.")

[1] Proposition 26 (2010) made "fee increases" subject to a two-thirds vote. Proposition 25 (2010) lowered the state budget vote threshold to a majority vote, but maintained the two-thirds vote for tax increases. *See, e.g., Yes on 25 v. Superior Court of Sacramento County* (2010). The case clarified that Proposition 25's majority vote threshold for passing the state budget did not change the two-thirds vote requirement for tax increases. On November 10, 2010, the Supreme Court ordered that the lower court decision be published (189 Cal.App.4th 1445).

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ELECTED OFFICIALS' SALARIES

ANNUAL SALARIES OF ELECTED STATEWIDE OFFICERS[9]

Governor	$182,791
Lt. Governor	$137,093
Attorney General	$158,775
Secretary of State	$137,093
Controller	$146,232
Treasurer	$146,232
Superintendent of Public Instruction	$158,775
Insurance Commissioner	$146,232
Members, Board of Equalization	$137,093

[1] Salaries effective December 1, 2015, pursuant to California Citizens Compensation Commission resolution adopted May 11, 2015. *See* pages 101–104 for legislators' salaries. *See* pages 89–90 for Congressional salaries. *See* page 69 for judicial salaries.



Capitol Grounds, circa 1890
(photo taken from hot air balloon)